

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ORIGIN SS-25

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NSC:RINDERFURTH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 248161

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL TRIP: SCHEDULE

REF: NEW DELHI 14433

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED REFTEL WITH WHITE HOUSE STAFF AND
NSC. FOLLOWING ARE OUR COMMENTS ON WHICH WE WOULD
APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS.

2. FIRST OF ALL, WE WISH TO REITERATE STRONGLY OUR
DESIRE TO KEEP SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 ENTIRELY FREE FOR THE
PRESIDENT'S AND MRS. CARTER'S PRIVATE TIME. THIS DAY
COMES EXACTLY IN THE MIDDLE OF WHAT WILL BE A LONG AND
HEAVILY-SCHEDULED TRIP AND AFTER AN ALL-NIGHT TRIP FROM
RIYADH. IT OFFERS THE ONLY CHANCE FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL
PARTY TO CATCH ITS BREATH BEFORE BEGINNING THE SECOND
LEG OF THE TRIP.

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3. IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, WE WOULD PREFER TO LEAVE
OPEN FOR THE TIME BEING THE QUESTION OF WHEN THE PRESIDENT
LAYS A WREATH ON GANDHI'S MEMORIAL.

4. WE ASSUME THAT THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER WILL MEET
THE PRESIDENT AT THE AIRPORT UPON ARRIVAL AND DRIVE IN

WITH HIM TO THE PRESIDENT'S RESIDENCE. ON ARRIVAL THERE, THEY WILL ALL PRESUMABLY HAVE A CHANCE FOR A BRIEF CHAT. HOPEFULLY THESE INITIAL MEETINGS WILL AVOID THE NEED FOR A FORMAL CALL BY PRESIDENT CARTER ON THE INDIAN PRESIDENT ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28. IF THAT IS THE CASE, THEN OUR PROPOSAL FOR THE MONDAY SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS.

5. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

0900-1015: BILATERAL WITH PRIME MINISTER

1015-1030: DRIVE TO PARLIAMENT

1030-1110: ADDRESS PARLIAMENT

PRIVATE TIME IN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE

1230-1345: SMALL WORKING LUNCH AT RESIDENCE (SEE PARA 6 BELOW FOR DETAILS)

1400-1700: PUBLIC EVENT OR EVENTS
(SEE PARA 7 FOR DETAILS)

1700-2000: PRIVATE TIME

2000-2230: BANQUET BY INDIAN PRESIDENT
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6. THE SMALL WORKING LUNCH SHOULD BE FOR EIGHT TO TEN PEOPLE IN TOTAL, THEREBY LIMITING IT TO THE MOST SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES ON EACH SIDE AND ALLOWING FOR CONTINUATION OF INTENSIVE BILATERAL TALKS. PLEASE ADVISE ON POSSIBLE GUEST LIST FOR INDIAN SIDE (WITHOUT CONSULTING INDIANS AT THIS POINT). ALSO, PLEASE ADVISE AS TO WHETHER YOU FEEL YOU OR THE PRESIDENT SHOULD BE THE FORMAL HOST.

7. WE ARE VERY TENTATIVELY CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING THE PRESIDENT VISIT A VILLAGE OUTSIDE NEW DELHI AND ALSO MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT RAM LILA DURING THE 1400-1700 HOUR PERIOD. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CANDID VIEWS ON WHETHER DOING BOTH EVENTS IS FEASIBLE OR ADVISABLE IN LIGHT OF SCHEDULING AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. HOWEVER, DO NOT REPEAT NOT RAISE THIS TENTATIVE THINKING WITH THE INDIANS AT THIS POINT. WE WISH ONLY EMBASSY'S VIEWS FOR THE TIME BEING.

8. FINALLY, DURING THIS AFTERNOON PERIOD, WE COULD CONCEIVABLY HAVE THE WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY IN ADDITION

TO ONE OR BOTH OF THE EVENTS DESCRIBED ABOVE. WE WOULD

WISH TO HAVE J.P. NARAYAN INVOLVED OR PRESENT AT THE
WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY. PLEASE ADVISE ON HOW BEST TO
BRING HIM INTO THIS EVENT.

9. PRESIDENT CARTER WILL ALSO BE PREPARED TO GREET THE
AMERICAN AND INDIAN STAFF OF THE MISSION AT SOME POINT IN
THE SCHEDULE.

10. IN RESPONDING TO ALL OF THE ABOVE, WE WOULD
APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS BY COB, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18.
WE WOULD ALSO WISH IN THAT RESPONSE A NEW TENTATIVE
SCHEDULE FOR THE FULL VISIT, TAKING ACCOUNT OF OUR
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PROPOSALS AS THEY MAY BE MODIFIED BY THE EMBASSY. VANCE

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